



MONTGOMERY WATSON

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February 6, 1996

Ms. Sheri Bianchin, RPM
Mail Code (HSR-6J)
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: Request for Schedule Extension
Barrier Wall Alignment Borings
ACS NPL Site, RD/RA

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



464755

Dear Ms. Bianchin:

The purpose of this letter is to request an extension to the schedule for conducting the Barrier Wall Alignment borings at the ACS NPL Site. The revised Dewatering/Barrier Wall Alignment Work Plan was submitted to you on January 15, 1996. Thirty boring locations were planned for the On-Site Area and 22 borings were planned for the Off-Site Area. In the Schedule and Reports Section of the Work Plan (page 8), it is stated that the "field work for the drilling of the borings is anticipated to be completed in two to three weeks."

Montgomery Watson began the Barrier Wall Alignment borings on January 17, 1996. Therefore, the three week period for boring installation would end on February 7, 1996. The Alignment Borings for the Off-Site Area were completed on January 31, within two weeks of start up. However, progress on the On-Site Area has been delayed by inclement and record cold weather conditions and the need to conduct additional borings along a revised barrier wall alignment.

Progress was slow during the week of January 29, 1996 because of winter weather conditions. Icy roads and near "white-out" conditions limited the field crew's ability to mobilize to the site on Monday, January 29. Therefore, the first day of full productivity for the week was Tuesday, January 30. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the temperatures remained near zero, and the wind-chill factor was between 10 and 20 degrees below zero. The field crews were able to make progress, but not at the originally planned level of efficiency because of the cold conditions. The field operations were shut down on Friday, February 2, when record cold temperatures were set across the midwest. The high temperature for the day was -15° and the wind-chill factor was reported to be minus-30 to minus-40 degrees.

According to the approved Work Plan (page 3) "if waste materials are found along the proposed alignment, additional borings will be conducted outward from the waste area."

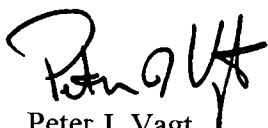
The number of boring locations increased at both the Off-Site and On-Site locations because of the waste encountered in the initial borings in these areas. Twenty-five borings were completed within two weeks of startup in the Off-Site Area. However, conditions have been more complex along the proposed On-Site Barrier Wall Alignment. PCB concentrations exceeding the current U.S. EPA "Waste" criterion in the ROD were found at several borings along the rail spur on the south side of the On-Site Alignment. Therefore, with Agency concurrence, the alignment was revised to extend south of the railroad spur. Approximately twelve additional borings were necessary to evaluate this revised alignment. Most of those 12 new borings were completed by February 2, 1996. However, field PCB screening again indicated elevated PCB levels at the south side of the new alignment. Therefore, it is anticipated that another six boring locations will be necessary to develop the final alignment.

The combination of the inclement and cold weather and the difficulty of establishing the alignment in the On-Site Area will add approximately ten working days to the Barrier Wall Alignment Investigation. Therefore, we request that the schedule for completion of the Barrier Wall Alignment investigation be extended from February 7, to February 22, 1996.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (708) 691-5020, if I can provide further information on this important matter.

Sincerely,

MONTGOMERY WATSON



Peter J. Vagt
Vice President
Principal Hydrogeologist

cc: Holly Grejda, IDEM
Rob Lantz, B&VWS
Ron Frehner, CRA

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